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28 February 1968

MEMORANDUM TO: Deputy Chief, EUR

VIA : Assistant Chief, EUR/Central Region

SUBJECT : Birthday Gift for General Gehlen

1. We have examined several possibilities in considering a suitable birthday remembrance for General Gehlen - this in response to a suggestion from Deputy Chief, EUR.

2. Attached is a memorandum from the CE/Liaison Section. I do not believe we should get involved in presenting Gehlen with any electronic gadgets. He will have little or no need for them in retirement. (The gadget involved would also cost an estimated \$1,000.)

3. I believe we should consider two separate gifts: a medal to be presented to Gehlen at his retirement ceremony and a medallion of the Agency Seal, cast in gold, to be given him as a birthday present at a private German-American ceremony on or immediately before his birthday. *↑ As DeSimone gave Mr. Dulles a gold medal on his retirement. AC/E/C*

4. [] I was consulted about awards and medals. Attached are Agency regulations concerning awards and the forms for requesting them. That few have been given to foreign dignitaries should not necessarily deter us from presenting a medal, probably The Distinguished Intelligence Medal, The Intelligence Medal of Merit, or The National Security Medal to Gehlen. He is (we are constantly reminded of this by Alias DESSAU) the "dean" of the intelligence chiefs of the Western world. Some special form of tribute in recognition of this is, I think, warranted.

5. Before we proceed with the necessary paperwork we would like your views and your recommendations as to which medal we should request.

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